

Front Page	Edit Page	Other Page
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Head of Estonian Emigre Unit Identified as CIA Agent

Court Hearing Slander Suit Told of U. S. Role
In Rumors Canada Resident Worked for Reds

By TOM LAMBERT.

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and New York Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON, April 21 —

The Central Intelligence Agency has been deeply involved in the affairs of Estonian emigres in this country and Canada, A Baltimore Federal Court case has revealed.

The court action also has disclosed that the leader of an Estonian emigre group in this country—who was concurrently a CIA agent and a Federal Bureau of Public Roads engineer—was acting for the CIA when he spread rumors that an Estonian emigre in Canada was a Soviet secret police (KGB) operative.

In an affidavit filed with the court, CIA Deputy Director Richard Helms said his agency supplied the rumor material and ordered it spread about "so as to protect the integrity of the agency's foreign intelligence sources."

\$110,000 Suit Filed

The case began Nov. 6, 1964, when Eerik Heine filed a \$110,000 slander suit against Juri Raus. Mr. Heine, a 46-year-old Estonian emigre, lives in Rexdale, near Toronto.

Mr. Raus, 39, is a \$10,605-a-year engineer with the United States Bureau of Public Roads. This bureau has installations adjoining the CIA in Langley, Va. Mr. Raus lives in Hyattsville, Md., a Washington suburb. He is the national commander of the Legion of Estonian Liberation Inc., an Estonian veterans organization in this country.

It is believed that Mr. Heine went to Canada in 1957, after having been released from a Soviet prison the previous year, and began devoting himself to liberating Estonia from the Soviet Union.

Displayed Film in U. S.

In 1963, he came to the U. S. to display a film about Estonian liberation and urge the liberation of his country. It was at

that time that he presumably heard rumors that he was an agent of the Soviet secret police.

Those rumors apparently prompted Mr. Heine to file his Baltimore court suit, in which he alleged that Mr. Raus accused him of being a Communist and Soviet secret agent on three different occasions in 1963 and 1964.

Claims Privilege

In a reply filed Jan. 3, 1965, Mr. Raus acknowledged he had said on one of those occasions "that he was in possession of responsible information received by him from an official agency of the U. S. government that the plaintiff (Mr. Heine) was a Soviet agent or collaborator."

As yet, there had been no mention of the CIA in the case. That came last Jan. 11, when Mr. Raus' attorneys filed a motion for summary judgment in the case, claiming their client had absolute privilege because he was acting as a U. S. government official.

Mr. Heine's attorneys, and Chief U. S. District Court Judge Roszel C. Thomsen as well, were reported to have been disturbed by this development and to have voiced their perturbation.

Await Word From CIA

In response, Mr. Raus' attorneys filed with the court on April 4 an affidavit signed by Mr. Helms elaborating somewhat on Mr. Raus' affiliation with the CIA, as follows:

"For a number of reasons . . . the defendant has been a source to this agency of foreign intelligence information pertaining to Soviet Estonia and to Estonian emigre activities in foreign countries as well as in the U. S."

Judge Thomsen has denied several dismissal motions in the past two years in hopes that the CIA will make available information on Mr. Heine.

No trial date has been set, pending official and final word from the CIA on whether it will provide the information.